

REMARKS

Claims 15-18 and 20 are pending. The indication of allowance of claims 15-18 and 20 is acknowledged and appreciated. Solely in order to expedite prosecution, claims 1-9, 11, 12 and 14, 19 and 21 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer so as to render the rejection thereagainst moot. Accordingly, only allowable claims are pending.

Although Applicants agree that the claims are patentable, it is respectfully submitted that the allowed claims should be entitled to the broadest reasonable interpretation and to the broadest range of equivalents that are appropriate in light of the language of the claims and the supporting disclosure, without reference to the statement of reasons for allowance stated in the present Office Action.

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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